

# BIOGRAPHICAL AND HISTORICAL



OF

## KOSCIUSKO COUNTY, INDIANA.

CONTAINING PORTRAITS OF ALL THE PRESIDENTS OF THE UNITED STATES FROM WASHINGTON TO CLEVELAND, WITH ACCOMPANYING BIOGRAPHIES OF EACH; A CONDENSED HISTORY OF THE STATE OF INDIANA; PORTRAITS AND BIOGRAPHIES OF SOME OF THE PROMINENT MEN OF THE STATE; ENGRAVINGS OF PROMINENT CITIZENS IN KOSCIUSKO COUNTY, WITH PERSONAL HISTORIES OF MANY OF THE LEADING FAMILIES, AND A CONCISE HISTORY OF KOSCIUSKO COUNTY AND ITS CITIES AND VILLAGES.

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THE LEWIS PUBLISHING COMPANY,

113 ADAMS STREET, CHICAGO.

1887.

has been steady and extremely substantial, and few towns in any State can show better business buildings, or more beautiful private residences.

Warsaw has a population of about 4,000 inhabitants, and is noted for having been the home of many men distinguished in both official and military positions.

#### INCORPORATION.

There were 752 inhabitants when the census was taken February 4, 1854, and agreeable to a petition signed by a majority of the residents, the Board of Commissioners being fully satisfied that all the requirements of the law had been complied with, declared that this should be an incorporated town by the name of Warsaw. The territory embraced in the survey made by S. R. Gordon was as follows: Commencing at the southwest corner of section 8, in township 32, north of range 6 east; thence north  $83^{\circ} 12'$ , east 194 poles 12 links; thence north  $3^{\circ}$ , west 12 poles 10 links; thence south  $3^{\circ} 12'$ , west 23 poles; thence north  $3^{\circ}$ , west 68 poles 20 links; thence north  $82^{\circ}$ , east 65 poles 14 links; thence north  $4^{\circ} 30'$ , west 80 poles 7 links; thence south  $83^{\circ}$ , 150 poles; thence north  $3^{\circ} 30'$ , 11 poles; thence north  $51^{\circ}$ , west 53 poles 11 links; thence north  $56^{\circ}$ , west 62 poles 15 links; thence south  $4^{\circ} 30'$ , east 250 poles 15 links; containing 236 acres  $26\frac{3}{10}$  poles.

#### ITS INCORPORATION AS A CITY.

The city of Warsaw was organized under an act of the Legislature, entitled "an act to repeal all general laws now in force for the incorporation of cities, and to provide for the incorporation of cities, prescribing their powers and rights, and the manner in which they shall receive the same, and to regulate

such other matters as properly pertain thereto." Approved March 15, 1867.

The election to decide whether to incorporate under city charter was held April 19, 1875, resulting in 278 votes for incorporation, and 200 votes against incorporation.

The first election for city officers was held May 4, 1875, resulting in the election of Hiram S. Biggs, Mayor; C. H. Ketchum, Clerk; S. B. Clark, Treasurer; J. A. Wright, Marshal; E. J. Greene, City Attorney; James Wynant, Assessor; J. A. Funk, Chief Engineer Fire Department; Caleb Hughes, Civil Engineer.

Board of Health, Drs. J. H. Carpenter, I. B. Webber and C. W. Burkett.

Councilmen, S. W. Chipman, T. C. Stuart, A. J. Bair, D. R. Pershing, Nelson Nutt, James McMurray.

The present city officers are: Mayor Lemuel W. Royse; Clerk, Marsh H. Parks; Treasurer, W. S. Vanator; Marshal, George W. Alford; Councilmen, H. C. Milice, James H. Cisney, L. J. Wolf, James M. Leamons, P. L. Runyan, Levi Zumbrum; Board of Health, Drs. Benjamin and E. W. Burkett, T. J. Shackelford.

The city of Warsaw has many elegant residences, and her people have cultured tastes, as evidenced by the imposing churches, fine and commodious school buildings and her Grand Opera House. This was erected by a joint stock company in 1877. The officers of the company were A. J. Bair, President; John N. Runyan, Secretary; Thomas Woods, Treasurer. The company perfected their plans, and erected a building 130x60, having six store rooms on the ground and basement under the whole. The stage is large, and elaborately supplied with scenes. One thousand persons can be seated in the audience room and the gallery will accommodate six hundred more. The opera house is built in

REVISED ORDINANCES  
OF THE  
CITY OF WARSAW,  
INDIANA.

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PASSED AND ADOPTED BY THE COMMON COUNCIL,  
NOVEMBER 17, 1879.

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WARSAW, INDIANA:  
NORTHERN INDIANIAN STEAM PRINTING HOUSE.  
1880.

## BRIEF HISTORY OF THE CITY OF WARSAW.

### ITS INCORPORATION AS A TOWN.

The beautiful city for whose government the laws and ordinances contained in the following pages have been enacted, was named by the late John B. Chapman, after the capital of Poland, the county having previously been called Kosciusko, in honor of the distinguished patriot of that name, who fell in defense of Warsaw, the capital of Poland. The first plat of the town was filed by J. H. Knott, proprietor, October 21, 1836. Other plats and additions soon followed, and have continued to do so, up to within the last few years. The growth of the town was quite slow at first. The north part of the county having been first opened to market, most of the early settlers had entered land in that part of the county, very naturally the village of Leesburg exceeded it in size and importance for a number of years. The first substantial stimulus that Warsaw received, aside from that which naturally grew out of its being the county seat, was when the prospect of building the Fort Wayne & Chicago railway was an assured fact. The prospect of railroad communication with the outer world infused new life, energy and enterprise into the people of the place. Naturally attractive in location, when that great thoroughfare was pushed from Fort Wayne westward, Warsaw took a forward bound that was surprising even to those who were most sanguine of the future greatness and importance of the place. Real estate rose rapidly in value, and by the time the road was completed, in the autumn of 1856, it was perhaps the largest town on the line between the two places. During the years which followed, up to the close of the war, Warsaw was, without doubt, the busiest business point in this region of the State. It became the shipping point for all the produce raised, not only within the limits of Kosciusko, but for a large portion of every one of the adjoining counties. Then came the war, with its attendant excitement, and, like all

other towns all over the country, Warsaw felt the depressing effects upon its conclusion, which naturally followed, and which has been quite generally shared by nearly every village, town and city in the United States. Since that time, while its growth has not been rapid, it has been steady and extremely substantial, and there are few towns in the country that can show better business buildings, or more beautiful private residences.

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